# CLAIMS

1.    (Original) A method for identifying useful data, said method comprising:

providing electronic access to a plurality of databases;

accepting search information vector data from a user;

utilizing said information vector data to access at least one database of said plurality of databases to identify at least a portion of said useful data therein; and

utilizing said at least a portion of said useful data from said at least one database to access at least another database of said plurality of databases to identify another portion of said useful data therein, wherein said utilizing said at least a portion of said useful data are performed automatically without input from said user to direct access with respect to said at least another database.

2.    (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said plurality of databases comprise a plurality of law enforcement databases.

3.    (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said plurality of databases comprise a calling services database and an inmate records database.

4.    (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein said plurality of databases further comprise a commissary services database.

5.    (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein ones of said plurality of databases are geographically dispersed.

6.    (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said electronic access is provided at least in part through a justice information network.

7.    (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein said justice information network provides information communication between a plurality of information management systems disposed at different sites for providing data processing functionality for associated ones of said different sites.

8.    (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein said different sites include sites selected from the group consisting of government offices, investigative services, and prison facilities.

9.    (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein search information vectors for which said search information vector data is accepted comprise contacts information.

10.    (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein search information vectors for which said search information vector data is accepted comprise inmate information.

11.    (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein search information vectors for which said search information vector data is accepted comprise suspect information.

12.    (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein search information vectors for which said search information vector data is accepted comprise end party information.

13.    (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein search information vectors for which said search information vector data is accepted comprise flow of funds information.

14.    (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein search information vectors for which said search information vector data is accepted comprise initial contact information.

15.    (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein search information vectors for which said search information vector data is accepted comprise public data information.

16.    (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said at least a portion of said useful data is identified by a confluence of search information vectors.

17.    (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said another portion of said useful data is identified by a confluence of search information vectors.

18.    (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
    presenting said at least a portion of said useful data and said another portion of said useful data to said user.

19.    (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein said at least a portion of said useful data and said another portion of said useful data are presented graphically.

20.    (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein said graphical presentation includes graphically showing details with respect to the relationship between said at least a portion of said useful data and said another portion of said useful data.

21.    (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein said graphical details comprise a relative strength of the relationship between said at least a portion of said useful data and said another portion of said useful data shown using a line therebetween.

22.    (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein said at least a portion of said useful data and said another portion of said useful data are presented to show a relationship between said at least a portion of said useful data and said another portion of said useful data.

23.    (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein said at least a portion of said useful data and said another portion of said useful data are presented as an alert to said user to notify said user of a condition of interest to said user.

24.    (Original) The method of claim 23, wherein said user is one of a plurality of users to which said alert is broadcast.

25.    (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein said at least a portion of said useful data and said another portion of said useful data are presented to said user as a dossier of an individual.

26.    (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said utilizing said information vector data to identify at least a portion of said useful data and said utilizing said at least a portion of said useful data to identify another portion of said useful data are performed after an event for post-event analysis of data.

27.    (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said utilizing said information vector data to identify at least a portion of said useful data and said utilizing said at least a portion of said useful data to identify another portion of said useful data are performed before an event for pre-event analysis of data.

28.    (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein said pre-event analysis of data is utilized to proactively identify problems.

29.    (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said utilizing said at least a portion of said useful data from said at least one database to access at least another database of said plurality of databases to identify another portion of said useful data therein comprises pattern matching to identify said another portion of said useful data.

30.    (Original) The method of claim 29, wherein said at least a portion of said useful data and said another portion of said useful data are utilized in automatically identifying an individual as a potential suspect in an investigation.

31.    (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said at least a portion of said useful data comprises particular content of a communication selected from the group consisting of a telephone call, a video communication, and an electronic mail communication.

32.    (Original) A method for identifying useful data available in at least one electronic database, said method comprising:

utilizing a plurality of search information vectors to identify data in said at least one database relevant to a particular query, wherein search information vectors of said plurality of search information vectors are associated with a different search direction; and

identifying confluence of search information vectors of said plurality of search information vectors with respect to said relevant data within said at least one database.

33.    (Original) The method of claim 32, further comprising:

utilizing said relevant data for which said confluence of search information vectors are identified to access another database and identify data relevant to said particular query.

34.    (Original) The method of claim 32, wherein said at least one electronic database comprises a plurality of law enforcement databases.

35.    (Original) The method of claim 34, wherein ones of said plurality of law enforcement databases are geographically dispersed.

36.    (Original) The method of claim 32, wherein said at least one electronic database further comprises a public records database.

37.     (Original) The method of claim 32, wherein said plurality of search information vectors comprise at least two search information vectors selected from the group consisting of contacts information, inmate information, suspect information, end party information, flow of funds information, initial contact information, and public data information.

38.     (Original) The method of claim 32, further comprising:

presenting said relevant data for which said confluence of search information vectors are identified to a user.

39.     (Original) The method of claim 38, wherein said relevant data for which said confluence of search information vectors are identified is presented graphically.

40.     (Original) The method of claim 39, wherein said graphical presentation includes graphically showing details with respect to relationships between said relevant data for which said confluence of search information vectors are identified and other data graphically presented.

41.     (Original) The method of claim 40, wherein said graphical details comprise a relative strength of the relationship between said relevant data for which said confluence of search information vectors are identified and said other data graphically presented shown using a line therebetween.

42.     (Original) The method of claim 39, wherein said graphical presentation includes graphically representing availability of data related to said relevant data for which said confluence of search information vectors are identified and other data graphically presented.

43.     (Original) The method of claim 42, wherein said related data comprises content of a communication between individuals.

44.     (Original) The method of claim 42, wherein said related data comprises an icon representing a form of communication between individuals.

45.     (Original) The method of claim 32, further comprising:

presenting an alert to a user as a result of identifying said confluence of search information.

46.     (Original) The method of claim 45, wherein said confluence of search information indicates a condition for which said user has subscribed to alert notifications.

47.     (Original) A system for providing a user with multidimensional data responsive to a query, said system comprising:

a plurality of geographically dispersed databases, at least some of said databases controlled by different enterprises; and

a communication system for allowing said user to formulate said query using multidirectional information vectors, said communication system operable to identify data directly relevant to at least one of said information vectors, said communication system further operable to identify data indirectly relevant to said at least one of said information vectors using said data identified as directly relevant to said at least one of said information vectors.

48.     (Original) The system of claim 47, wherein said communication system recognizes a confluence of a plurality of said information vectors in identifying said data directly relevant to said at least one of said information vectors.

49.     (Original) The system of claim 47, wherein said communication system comprises:

a justice information network providing information communication between a plurality of information management systems disposed at different sites.

50.     (Original) The system of claim 49, wherein said different sites include sites selected from the group consisting of government offices, investigative services, and prison facilities.

51.     (Original) The system of claim 47, wherein said plurality of databases comprise a calling services database.

52.     (Original) The system of claim 47, wherein said plurality of databases comprise an inmate records database.

53.     (Original) The system of claim 47, wherein said plurality of databases comprise a commissary services database.

54.     (Original) The system of claim 47, wherein said plurality of databases comprise a public records database.